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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Military Rail and Road Movements

EVALUATION

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 17 November 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 12 October 1950, a train carrying soldiers wearing red-bordered black epauletts, and 20 trucks was observed at the Eisenach freight yard. Four of the trucks apparently carried rocket launchers.

(1)

2. About 20 trucks and 12 guns were loaded in Sattelstadt on 12 October. Another shipment of 24 trucks and ambulance was loaded in Sattelstadt in the evening of that day. The soldiers with it wore red-bordered black epauletts. (1)

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3. On the morning of 16 October, a freight train carrying ten trucks, six armored trucks, four armored passenger cars and fifteen T34 tanks was standing at the Sattelstadt railroad station. Ten trucks

and four guns were parked on the road leading to the freight yard. (1)

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4. On 16 October, the loading of trucks was observed at the Eisenach freight yard. About forty tanks stood in front of the freight yard. (1)

5. On 17 October, about 30 trucks and troops wearing red-bordered black epauletts with tank insignia were loaded in Eisenach. (1)

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6. On 18 October, motor vehicles and 21 tanks were loaded at the Eisenach railroad station. (1)

7. A train of 15 boxcars and 25 flatcars which passed through Merseburg on 19 October came from the direction of Weissenfels and proceeded toward Halle. It carried six AT guns, six armored scout cars, and trucks

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8. On 19 October, a train carrying 17 trucks was standing at the Sattelstedt railroad station. Four T-34 tanks were being loaded on the train, [redacted]

9. Three troop trains standing at the Eissenach railroad station on 20 October carried an undetermined number of tanks, personnel carriers, and trucks [redacted]

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10. Troops were no longer loaded in Eissenach between 21 and 23 October.

11. On 20 October between 5 and 11:30 p.m., thirty-five trucks, one passenger car, two jeeps, eight 57-mm AT guns, four 122-mm guns, two guns of about 150 mm and one field kitchen were loaded at the Neuruppin railroad station. Fifteen boxcars were boarded by about 450 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia. [redacted]

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(4)

12. On 21 October between 2 and 4 p.m., a convoy of about 40 trucks [redacted] three trucks [redacted] towing guns, five AT guns towed by half track vehicles, three scout cars, and 12 sidecar motorcycles was observed on the Krangen-Altruppin road. (5)

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13. On 22 October at 11:30 a.m., a train of five boxcars and flatcars carrying fifteen T-34 tanks and 14 trucks, including trucks [redacted] passed through Neuruppin and proceeded toward Altruppin. On 24 October at 2:20 p.m., a train with 15 tanks and three trucks [redacted] left Neuruppin in the same direction. (5)

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Comments.

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- (1) Components of both the 21st Gds Mecz Div and 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div which were loaded for shipment to their home stations. [redacted] components of the two divisions were loaded in the Eissenach-Kindel area between [redacted] and 11 October 1950. [redacted]
- (2) Elements of the 21st Gds Mecz Div which returned to their post in Halle. [redacted] components of this division were unloaded in Halle between 11 and 13 October 1950. [redacted]
- (3) Loading of components of the 21st Gds Mecz Div and one component of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. It is therefore believed that most of the units which had practiced in the Kindel maneuver area had returned to their home stations by 20 October 1950. [redacted]
- (4) Loading of components of the 12th Gds Tank Div. [redacted] mortar units of this division were loaded during the night of 19 October 1950. [redacted] The elements of the 12th Gds Tank Div presumably held their fall exercises as late as the end of October 1950. Since two troop trains went from Neuruppin to Forst Zinna on 21 October 1950, it is possible that components of the 12th Gds Tank Div began their exercises in the area south of Berlin on 20 October 1950. [redacted] A troop train which went from Forst Zinna to Neuruppin on 27 October 1950 presumably carried components of the 12th Gds Tank Div which returned to their home station.

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(5) [redacted] the convoy observed on 21 October 1950 was composed of elements of the 25th Tank Div, headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army, and elements of the unidentified AAA Div of that army. [redacted] headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army, numerous components of the 25th Tank Div, and elements of the other divisions of the army held their final fall maneuvers in the area south of Zehdenick from 19 to 22 October 1950. [redacted] Present report indicates that the elements of the 25th Tank Div started leaving on 22 October 1950, upon completion of the maneuvers.

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